

Congressman Pete Hoekstra's: Top 10 Bad Policies Included in Health Care Overhaul

1. Abortion – Senate bill and Reconciliation provide for federal funding of abortion.

1.5. Government Takeover of Health Care – Gives government unprecedented authority to regulate one-sixth of nation's economy.

2. Fiscally Irresponsible – \$1.2 trillion dollars to create and implement bill over the next 10 years and adds an estimated \$260 billion to the federal deficit over the same time period.

2.5. Individual Mandate – Forces Americans to have health insurance or pay \$695 or 2.5 percent of their income, this is unconstitutional.

3. Taxes – The bill includes an estimated \$569.6 billion in new taxes.

3.5. Medicare Cuts – Includes an estimated \$523.5 billion in cuts to Medicare and Medicare Advantage.

4. Medicaid Expansion – Expands Medicaid eligibility in every state - would cost Michigan \$710 million.

4.5. Ignores Veterans – Health care programs for veterans not qualified health care.

5. Premium Costs – Despite claims that premiums will be reduced under bill, premiums will actually increase.

5.5. Government Takeover of Student Loans – The bill eliminates the private student loan industry.

6. Forces Americans Out of Health Plans – Only those with government approved plans will be able to keep their health coverage.

6.5. No Medical Malpractice – The legislation does not cap medical malpractice lawsuits.

7. Partisan Process - Never before has the reconciliation process been used for such sweeping social policy.

7.5. Job Killer – The bill contains numerous provisions that eliminate jobs, reduce hours and wages, and limits future job creation.

8. Employer Mandates and Penalties – Includes penalty of \$2,000 per employee if employer doesn't offer coverage.

8.5. Expanded Bureaucracy – The bill creates new government boards, imposes mandates, and increases number of bureaucrats. Example 16,500 new IRS agents will be needed to implement taxes and fines.

9. Back Room Deals - The bill includes back room deals such as the Louisiana Purchase, Gator Aid, etc.

9.5. No Physician Payment Fix – The bill doesn't address Medicare physician payment cuts

9.75. Budgetary Gimmicks - Americans will be paying 10 years of taxes for only six years of benefits.

10. Ignores American Public Opinion - Polling shows 54% of the American public oppose bill.